2. Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which the ACA was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled/are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the following checks to see that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

Kinds of Checks exercised.*

1. Vouchers and Books of Accounts.
2. Measurement Books.
3. Grant-in-aid/Loan Register
4. Expenditure Register.

Signature.....

Designation.....

Date.....

Give details applicable.

(GM., MF., O.M. No. F. 14(1)-E II (A)/73, dated the 23rd April, 1975)

Employment of North-Eastern States

1798. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the potentials of employment generation in different sectors have been sorted out by the Planning Commission;

(b) whether the State Governments have been given instructions to this effect;

(c) the sector identified for employment generation in the North-Eastern States;

(d) whether Government have any policy to give priority to the youths of the North-Eastern States in respect of employment in the public sector in consideration of their isolation; and

(e) the details of the policy of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Tenth Plan document, as

approved by the National Development Council, gives the target for employment creation in different sectors, in Chapter 5, Volume I.

(c) to (e) Tenth Plan has identified labour intensives sectors such as Agriculture and Allied activities, Food Processing, Rural Non Farm Activities, Small and Medium Enterprises and Services sector, including Health, Nutrition, Education and Information Technology, for employment generation.

Union Government is implementing a number of policies and programmes particularly for the benefit of the North-Eastern States, which include; transport subsidy scheme, industrial policy package for North-Eastern Region and technology mission for integrated development of horticulture in North Eastern States. A non-lapsable Central pool of resources for the North-Eastern States and Sikkim has been created with the approval of the Parliament. This pool, meant for funding development projects in these States, fills the resource gap in creation of new infrastructures in the North-Eastern Region. Assets and institutions created through such programmes contribute to increase in employment opportunities for the youth.

People Below Poverty Line

†1799. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 41.4 crore people in India are living under the Below Poverty Line as per a report of the World Bank; and

(b) if so, the action plan with the Government to redress this problem alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir. According to the lastest World Bank Report (World Developments Indicators, 2004), during 1999-2000, 34.7 percentage of the population in India were living on less than $1.08 a day at 1993 international prices. It implies that 34.7 crore people of India were living under the Below Poverty Line according to International Poverty Line of $1 a day during 1999-2000. (India's population during 1999-2000 was 1001 million).

(b) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy for reducing poverty (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.